

decidedly "costable"! — as also
Critrichium arctoides.

Did it ever strike thee that if
the great oceanic current, which
pours in to the gulf of Mexico,
could get through into the Pacific,
that it would send a volume
of tropical "warm water northward
through Behring's Straits,* & bring
back "the glacial period" upon
Northern Europe; by the main
(I perhaps only) polar return
current descending southward
between Greenland & Norway;
instead of being split into frag-
ments by the now opposing
Gulf stream? Why should
not the "glacial period" of
Northern Europe have been

*. . . Gulf stream in fact.

West Bank,
Nork.

20/12 mo '72

Dear Dr Gray

I am very much obliged
by thy continued kindness,
in sending me seeds from
W. Clark (of Sequoia gigan-
tea &c): which are safely to
hand. I notice that *Abies*
Williamsoni is marked
as synonymous with *A.*
Pattouiana. The former
(*A. Williamsoni*) has for
years been known in this
country as a synonym of

A. Mertensiana (called also "*A. Albertiana*", on what authority I know not).

Perhaps we have been quite wrong. But I shall be glad to know that the seed sent is the true *A. Pattoniana*. I hope we may be able to raise the *Whitneya*.

It will please me to hear that my letters acknowledging rec^{tion} of Dr. Parry's seeds, & plants, & another enclosing the L^{ts} are all safely received. I have

rec^d an interesting lot of seeds of rarities from Labrador! including *Parussia Kotzebuei*, *Dryas tenuella* (*integrifolia*) &c &c.

What a lot of fine alpenes seem to be in western Esquimaux land - the Behring's Straits district. I fear however that the chance of getting communication with such an out-of-the-way district is very bad. I obtain my information from "The Voyage of the Herald 1845-51, by Berthold Seemann".

Dianthus repens, & *Artemisia Androsacea* (both figured) are